AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented system for detecting termination of an application instance using locks, comprising:

a holding process configured to obtain a first exclusive lock on an object maintained by the application instance

a waiting process configured to (a) request a second exclusive lock on the object after the holding process has been granted the first exclusive lock on the object, and (b) return a result signal, to a monitor process, upon at least one of acquiring the second exclusive lock and ceasing to be blocked; and

the monitor process configured to process the result signal to determine whether the application instance has terminated.

2. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

the monitor process determining whether the application instance terminated based, at least in part, on whether the monitor process receives a standard error or a non-standard error from the waiting process.

3. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the holding process resides at the same node as the application instance, and where the waiting process does not reside at the same node as the application instance.

4. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 3, further comprising:

a validation module configured to (a) check for termination of the monitored application and (b) signal termination of the monitored application to a cluster service.

5. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 3, further comprising:
a validation module configured to (a) check for termination of the monitored application and (b) restart the holding process and the waiting process.

6. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the application instance is a database service instance.

7. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for detecting termination of an application instance using locks, comprising:
starting a holding process configured to perform the steps of
(a) acquiring a first exclusive lock on an object maintained by the application instance, and
(b) returning a ready signal, to a monitor process, upon successfully acquiring the first exclusive lock; and
in response to receiving the ready signal, starting a waiting process configured to perform the steps of:
(a) connecting to the application instance,
(b) requesting a second exclusive lock on the object maintained by application instance, and
(c) returning, to the monitor process, a result signal upon at least one of acquiring the second exclusive lock and ceasing to be blocked; and
processing the result signal, at the monitor process, to determine whether the application instance has terminated.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, further comprising:

determining whether the application instance terminated based, at least in part, on whether the monitor process receives a standard error or non-standard error from the waiting process.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the holding process resides at the same node as the application instance, and wherein the waiting process does not reside at the same node as the application instance.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 9, further comprising the steps of:
checking for termination of the application instance; and
signaling termination of the application instance to a cluster service.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 9, further comprising the steps of:
checking for termination of the monitored application; and
restarting the holding process and the waiting process.

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the application instance is a database server instance.

13. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of method recited in Claim 7.

14-26. (Cancelled).

27. (New) A machine-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of method recited in Claim 8.

28. (New) A machine-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of method recited in Claim 9.

29. (New) A machine-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of method recited in Claim 10.

30. (New) A machine-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of method recited in Claim 11.

31. (New) A machine-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of method recited in Claim 12.